POLENTA w/ Woodland Tomato Sauce



Polenta:

³/₄ c. yellow cornmeal 1 Tbs. oregano or basil

3 c. water ½ tsp. salt 2 bouillon cubes 1 Tbs. butter

1/4 c. freshly grated Parmesan or Asiago cheese

In a deep saucepan, bring water, salt & bouillon to a boil. Gradually add cornmeal, whisking constantly. Reduce heat to medium & continue cooking, stirring constantly, about 15 minutes or until the mixture is very thick (caution: polenta will pop and splatter). Remove from heat. Stir in oregano or basil, cheese and butter. Spread polenta in oiled 9" pie plate, cover with plastic wrap & chill until firm, at least 30 minutes. Cut into 8 wedges, place on cookie sheet & brush with olive oil. Broil for 8-10 minutes until browned, turning if desired. Wedges may also be grilled.



Woodland Tomato Sauce with Morel Mushrooms:

2 Tbs. butter ½ tsp. black pepper

2 Tbs. olive oil ½ tsp. salt

1 small onion ½ sweet red or yellow pepper

2 tsp. crushed garlic 1½ c. morels, chopped

1 Tbs. dried oregano or basil ½ c. wine

3 Tbs. chopped fresh parsley
4 tsp. sugar

1/2 lb. Italian sausage, browned
1 6-oz. can tomato paste

4 c Roma tomatoes, chopped (or 2 cans diced tomatoes)

Melt butter with oil. Add onion, garlic, seasonings, morels, pepper and wine. Cook 3 minutes or until onions are brown. Add tomatoes and crumbled Italian sausage, then simmer 5 minutes. Add tomato paste.

Serve Woodland Tomato Sauce over hot polenta with grated Asiago or Parmesan cheese to top.